PLANNING COMMITTEE

September 4, 2015	Committee
	Report No.

Honorable Chair and Members of the County Council County of Maui Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii

Chair and Members:

Your Planning Committee, having met on August 20, 2015, makes reference to County Communication 15-153, from Councilmember Don Couch, transmitting the matter relating to Chapter 4 of the Maui Island Plan, "Economic Development," regarding tourism.

Your Committee is in receipt of correspondence dated August 20, 2015, from Committee Chair Don Couch, transmitting a portion of Chapter 4 of the Maui Island Plan, entitled "Tourism."

Your Committee discussed Maui Island Plan Implementing Action 4.2.1-3, which states: "Develop a yearly performance report to the Maui County Council that describes the returns resulting from expenditures of public funds/grants that are awarded for the visitor industry."

Your Committee noted the Maui Island Plan was adopted by Ordinance 4004 (2012), which took effect December 28, 2012, and the Council has yet to receive any yearly performance reports relating to Implementing Action 4.2.1-3.

Your Committee expressed interest in further evaluation of public expenditures for the visitor industry.

Your Committee notes, pursuant to Resolution 15-5, the Council's establishment of its standing committees, your Economic Development, Energy, Agriculture, and Recreation ("EAR") Committee makes recommendations to the Council on "Business and economic development issues," such as tourism. Your EAR Committee also considers the operation of the Office of Economic Development, including oversight of its grants.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Committee
Report No.

Your Committee noted further review of the Maui Island Plan's tourism-related actions is more appropriately done by your EAR Committee.

Your Committee voted 6-0 to recommend referral of the communication to your EAR Committee. Committee Chair Couch, Vice-Chair Carroll, and members Baisa, Cochran, Guzman, and White voted "aye." Committee member Victorino was excused.

Your Planning Committee RECOMMENDS that County Communication 15-153 be REFERRED to the Economic Development, Energy, Agriculture, and Recreation Committee.

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI PLANNING COMMITTEE

	Committee
Page 3	Report No.

This report is submitted in accordance with Rule 8 of the Rules of the Council.

DON COUCH, Chair

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